

ensure we have the tools to succeed; her style was to embrace our souls, hearts, and even squeeze a little harder, just to get our attention.

As we join with her loving family, we see in their eyes this boundless love and the meaning of her life, so richly captured by their individual and collective accomplishments, and for whom she served as the driving force. From a very young age, she encouraged her son Al to preach the word of God and to stand up for the rights of those who have no voice.

As Ms. Ada Sharpton transitions home again, we say thank you Ada and we thank God for you, always and forever.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SACRAMENTO AFRICAN-AMERICAN ART COLLECTIVE

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 26, 2012

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Sacramento African-American Art Collective (SAAAC), which serves to enhance cultural and artistic experiences in the Sacramento area community. SAAAC came together in 2010, and offers great opportunities for African-American artists to showcase their work in collaboration with local businesses. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the artists, organizers, and businesses involved in this valuable cultural resource.

SAAAC was founded as a means to increase the exposure of African-American artists to the Sacramento community, and likewise to allow the Sacramento community to enjoy the unique messages and perspectives offered by African-American artists. Since its inaugural 1st Saturday Art Tour in February, 2011, SAAAC has become an integral part of the monthly art experience in Sacramento. Local businesses continue to volunteer their time and space to exhibit the work of these artists, all of whom are locally-based.

In honor of Black History Month, and in collaboration with the California Governor's office, SAAAC exhibited several works in the Governor's Annex at the California State Capitol. The collection, co-sponsored by the California Legislative Black Caucus, was titled "Family: Those We Love!", and was available to enjoy from February 20th, to March 2nd, 2012. This was the first such exhibit in the Governor's Office to acknowledge the contribution of African-American artists to the distinct cultural milieu that makes Sacramento great. The collection is now on display at the Kuumba Collective Art Gallery in Sacramento.

Among the artists and community leaders I'd like to recognize are Gerry GOS" Simpson, Frank Blackwell, Milton Bowens, Warren

Spirling, Lawrence Sullivan, Daphne Burgess, Shonna McDaniel, Gene Howell, Mallory Knight, Lumumba, Marichal Brown, David Alexander, James and Renee Sweeney, John King, Kanika Marshall, Constance King, Marshall Bailey, Frankie Edwards-Lee, Cynthia Brooks, Janis Wade, and Daneshia Johnson. I would also like to recognize the dozens of businesses and sponsors that have collaborated with SAAAC, including the Sacramento Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO, The Brickhouse Gallery, Crave The Spotlight, Pacific Housing Inc., and many others.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize these community members and their priceless contributions to the rich and diverse cultural experience that Sacramento offers. As artists, friends, and community leaders gather at the Kuumba Gallery, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Sacramento African-American Art Collective and its partners for helping to enrich our lives.

RECOGNIZING PAUL ALLEN'S PERSONAL DONATION OF \$300 MILLION FOR BRAIN RESEARCH

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 26, 2012

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in my role as co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional Neuroscience Caucus. The caucus works on a bipartisan basis to share the latest developments in neuroscience so that we might unlock new insights and new cures.

Yesterday was a historic day in the neuroscience research community. That's because yesterday, Paul Allen made a personal donation of \$300 million to help better understand the human brain.

This is one of the largest donations ever for brain research. But it is not the first. Mr. Allen—best known as the co-founder of Microsoft—made a \$100 million donation nine years ago when he launched the Allen Institute for Brain Science. In fact, he now has contributed some \$500 million to this great quest.

I would like to recognize Mr. Allen and wish his amazing team of scientists success, because all of society stands to benefit.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HAMPTON HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 26, 2012

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise, on behalf of Congressman

SCOTT RIGELL and myself, to call attention to a group of young students from Hampton, Virginia, who have distinguished themselves, their school, their community and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Hampton High School Crabbers basketball team had a remarkable season. On March 11, Coach Walter Brower and the Crabbers won their first Virginia state basketball championship since 1997, their fifth overall, by defeating Petersburg High School of Petersburg, 64–51, at the VCU Siegel Center in Richmond, Virginia.

After not making it to last year's Eastern Region Tournament, the Crabbers came into this season as unlikely to win the state championship. However, as a result of tireless work on the part of both Hampton's players and coaches, the team was able to rise to a level that, given their performance last year, few would have thought achievable.

After three straight close games to begin the Virginia High School League tournament, including a near loss to the Bayside Marlins from Virginia Beach, the Crabbers never trailed their opponents in their final two games.

Although very accomplished in basketball, Hampton High's legacy of excellence is not limited to the field of athletics. Under the direction of Principal Myra Chambers, the Hampton faculty seeks to inspire all students to strive for excellence and achievement in the classroom, in their extracurricular activities and in their communities.

As a direct descendent of the Syms-Eaton School, the first free school in America established in the American colonies, Hampton High has continued to uphold a tradition rooted in excellent public education. Affectionately known as the "little Pentagon," Hampton has been selected in the past as one of the best schools in the United States when it received the national Award of Academic Excellence from the Department of Education. Hampton's commendation for this award read in part: Hampton High has seen "the glory of a maturing nation and the pain of depression and warfare. Yet through it all, the school has always respected and upheld the traditional values of educational achievement and pride in one's community. . . ."

So, on this occasion, we would like to extend our enthusiastic congratulations to Coach Walter Brower, his coaching staff, the players on the Hampton High School Crabbers and to all Hampton High School students, families, friends and fans, for their continued dedication to excellence in winning the Group AAA Virginia High School League state basketball championship of 2012.